

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LAW SECTION
STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

2008 COMPETITION
For Outstanding Student Papers
In the Area of Labor and Employment

The Labor and Employment Law Section of the State Bar of California is pleased to announce its 2008 Competition for Outstanding Student Papers in the Area of Labor and Employment law.

PRIZES

FIRST PRIZE

\$2,000, a trip from any California location for the student winner to attend the Section's Annual Fall Meeting, and a one-year student membership in the Labor and Employment Law Section. The first prize paper will be published in the California Labor and Employment Law Review, the Section's journal, which is circulated to labor and employment lawyers statewide.

SECOND PRIZE:

\$1,000 and a one-year student membership in the Labor and Employment Law Section.

HONORABLE MENTION:

\$500 and a one-year student membership in the Labor and Employment Law Section.

All eligible law students who enter the writing competition will receive a one-year student membership in the Labor and Employment Law Section. Membership includes a subscription to the California Labor and Employment Law Review as well as a free searchable CD-ROM containing past issues of the Review.

CONTEST RULES

PLEASE WRITE ON THE FOLLOWING QUESTION:

What law can be used, and what arguments made, in California to support the position that blogging on your own time on your own equipment should be protected activity for which your employer cannot discipline you? Be sure to discuss the following situations: (a) the blog clearly concerns work-related topics; and (b) the blog is unrelated to work but the employer claims a "business" reason for using the blog as a basis for discipline (e.g., the blog reflects poorly on the business; shows employee in bad light, thus reflecting on the business; indicates the blogger is not trustworthy, etc.).

As a starting point, authors may want to review California Labor Code sections 96k and 98.6 and the National Labor Relations Act, Section 8(a)(1), 29 U.S.C. §158(a)(1).

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration, the paper must be written solely by a student enrolled in a California law school at the time he or she writes the paper.

SUBMISSION

Submit your paper by e-mail attachment in Word or WordPerfect formats to Section Coordinator Susan Orloff at Susan.Orloff@calbar.ca.gov. Papers must be e-mailed on or before August 1, 2008. Please also attach a cover letter verifying your law school enrollment and authorizing the Section to publish your paper in the California Labor and Employment Law Review if it is declared the winner. Please follow the citation style of *The Blue Book: A Uniform System of Citation*. Papers should be no longer than 2,500 words.

JUDGING

The papers will be judged on the quality of legal research, writing and analysis. The decision of the judges is final. Papers must be of publishable quality, and the Section reserves the right not to award any prizes, if, in the sole opinion of the judges, none of the papers is of publishable quality or meet the standards set forth above.

For information about the Labor and Employment Law Section see:
www.calbar.org/laborlaw